



Commanding Officer
LtCol Calvert L Worth

Executive Officer
Maj M Heath Henderson

Sergeant Major
SgtMaj Charlie D Stanford

1st Battalion 6th Marines Family Newsletter

The Holiday Edition

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 8

DECEMBER 2009

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A Word from the Battalion Commander

Friends and families of 1/6
HARD,

As many of you are already aware, 1/6 HARD has received the order to deploy in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. By the time you receive this newsletter many of our Marines and Sailors will have deployed. As the remainder of the battalion departs, staging and departure times will be passed to the Marines as flight dates become available. Please remember Operational Security applies when you are discussing details of our departure. Please do not post these details on any social networking sites, and stay flexible as times may shift depending on airlift.

As we begin this deployment, know that your Marines and Sailors are well trained and motivated. They are prepared for the challenges ahead, and will continue to uphold the proud legacy of 1/6 HARD.

As always, we appreciate the sacrifice and support of our families and friends. While it will be a challenge for all of us to spend Christmas away from our loved ones, know that our mission is critical to this nation's



*The National Tree Lighting Ceremony in our nation's capital. Dec 3, 2009. Washington, DC.
Courtesy of nationaltree.org*

security, and that I share your pride in the dedication and esprit of your Marines and Sailors. Your patience and strength at this challenging time will be the foundation for our success.

Semper Fidelis and I wish you a Merry Christmas,

LtCol Cal Worth
Commanding Officer
1/6 HARD

Headquarters & Service Company

Hi friends and family of Hawkeye! I'm writing from one of our stopping points on the way to Afghanistan. The flight here was long and we made about four stops for gas (apparently we were rather on the heavy side). It snowed as we flew over and has been at or below freezing since we arrived. I'm proud that the bulk of H&S Company is leading the Battalion into Afghanistan. There's a lot of work that has to be done before we can start operations and the Marines of H&S are critical to those operations.

I greatly enjoyed the Company Family Day we had at the Bowling Alley. There's never a good time for H&S Company to try to get everyone together for a few hours. We support the Battalion, and there is always some part of this Battalion that needs to do something. However, I was pleased with the turnout that we had and privileged to meet the loved ones of so many of our Marines. With any luck we'll have the opportunity to do something like this again after the deployment.

We had a number of promotions at the beginning of the month. Two of the most remarkable ones were promoting Master Gunnery Sergeant McKeown to his present rank and Sergeant Major Schaefer to his present rank. Both of these Marines have reached the apex rank for enlisted Marines. They are masters of their chosen disciplines and will continue to pass on their years of experience and knowledge to junior Marines. Without question the high level this Company performs at can be attributed to these Marines. We are fortunate for what they have done, and will continue to do, for us.

Promotions also lead to personnel turnover; a Battalion is only authorized one Sergeant Major. SgtMaj Schaefer will be assuming the billet of Battalion Sergeant Major for 2/9 in the coming months. I am fortunate to receive a high quality replacement with First Sergeant Scott Peck, our new Company First Sergeant. He is originally a Motor Transportation Operator and comes to us from Weapons Company 2/6. His first task was to move the Company to Afghanistan and I could not be more impressed with how the operation is going. I think we are a very fortunate Company.

We are also fortunate that the First Sergeant and Master Sergeant selection list has been released. I am pleased to announce that GySgt Simmons, the Company Gunnery Sergeant, has been selected for First Sergeant. He has clearly demonstrated that he is worthy of the privilege and the responsibility this entails.

H&S Company had the following promotions this month. Congratulations Marines!

SSgt Reed	SSgt King
Cpl Amaral	Cpl Labrado
Cpl Learish	
Cpl Link (Meritorious)	
Cpl Porto	Cpl Watkins
LCpl Beck	LCpl Cawley
PFC Hunnings	

As always, it is my sincere honor and privilege to work with the Marines and Sailors of H&S Company.

Captain Easter

Alpha Company

Family and Friends of Apache,

As many of you already know, we have received our deployment order and are set to deploy this month. The Marines and Sailors of Apache Company have trained very hard over the past several months and are prepared for our deployment. It has been a great honor for me to train with your

Marines and Sailors and watch them develop into a fine company that will be ready to take on any task that is given to us while on deployment. We have developed a cohesive team with strong leaders that are prepared for the challenges ahead, and we will continue to uphold the proud legacy of 1st Battalion, 6th Marines, Alpha Company, as well as that of our Nation.

Once again, I want to thank you for all of the support that you have given to your Marines and Sailors. While we are gone we will keep you in our hearts and prayers, as I know that you all will do the same for us.

Captain Havens

Bravo Company

Dear Family and Friends of Blackfoot,

As you read this, the Company has arrived in Afghanistan and is preparing for counterinsurgency operations. Throughout the final days at Camp Lejeune, the Marines showed admirable focus. Having just completed an inspection of every Marine and Sailor in the Company, I feel nothing but confidence and pride. We have trained hard, spent

weeks in preparation for deployment, and each man is mentally and physically ready to go.

Thank you for your unwavering support throughout the training cycle; it is truly a core tenet of our combat strength.

Semper Fidelis and Happy Holidays.

Capt Sparks

*Thank you for your unwavering support throughout the training cycle; it is truly a core tenet of our combat strength.
-Captain Sparks*

Charlie Company

During the month of December, Cold Steel conducted sustainment training to prepare ourselves for combat operations in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. In the beginning of the month the Marines attended various pre-deployment briefs, and ensured their gear was prepared to deploy. Additionally, the company participated in Mine Detector Training that will provide us an invaluable skill while operating forward. The Marines also had the opportunity to participate in a Weapons Simulator, this allowed the Marines to sustain their individual weapons proficiency

and cross train on weapons systems they do not typically employ. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The following promotions occurred during the month of December, congratulations to these Marines:

Cpl Mehmedovic
Cpl St. Onge (Meritorious)

Semper Fidelis,
Captain Lucero

Weapons Company

Friends and family of Weapons Company,

The past several weeks have been very busy for Weapons Company. Once again we have shifted our focus from training, back to our administrative deployment preparation due to the Battalion receiving a deployment order to Afghanistan. We have worked very hard in making sure that our Marines, Sailors, and families have been properly prepared for this deployment and we hope that you have enjoyed the well-deserved time off.

We have focused our Marines and Sailors on being administratively prepared, as well as mentally and physically for this deployment. They have updated all their Wills, Power of Attorneys, and Record of Emergency Data. Simultaneously the Marines were able to conduct platoon level classes on the cultural aspect of this deployment to Afghanistan. As we get ready to leave, we ask that you continue to support your Marines and sailors as they have

worked very hard on making sure that their loved ones at home will be taken care of while they are away.

We would like to say Congratulations to the newly promoted this month:

Cpl Casendino (Meritorious)
Cpl Gibney (Meritorious)
Cpl Brown
Cpl Ellis
Cpl Stark
Lcpl Cary
Lcpl Dent
Lcpl Friend
Lcpl Hathy
Lcpl Hormaza
Lcpl Houser
Lcpl Krug
Lcpl Lance
Lcpl Lewis
Lcpl Lounello
Lcpl Montford
Lcpl Mueller
Lcpl Pagano
Lcpl Palcios
Lcpl Unterharnscheidt
Lcpl Zapatasierra
Pfc Lopez Jr.

Congratulations as well to our selected grade Staff Non-Commissioned officer within the Company. GySgt Crawford was selected for promotion to First Sergeant. He has taken over the company for Sergeant Major Cullen. Finally, we have to say farewell to Sergeant Major Cullen who will be taking over as the Battalion Sergeant Major for 1st Battalion 2nd Marines a command well deserved.

Be safe this holiday season and best wishes to all.

Semper Fidelis

Captain Zinni

Top 5 Christmas Carols

1. *I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas*
2. *Oh, Christmas Tree*
3. *Silent Night*
4. *Jingle Bells*
5. *Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire*



*Be safe this holiday season
and best wishes to all.*

Deployed Mailing Addresses

ALPHA CO

Rank LName, FName
1/6 A CO, PLATOON
UNIT 73160
FPO AE 09510-3160

BRAVO CO

Rank LName, FName
1/6 B CO, PLATOON
UNIT 73135
FPO AE 09510-3135

CHARLIE CO

Rank LName, FName
1/6 C CO, PLATOON
UNIT 73140
FPO AE 09510-3140

HQ & SERVICES CO

Rank LName, FName
1/6 HQ SVC CO, PLATOON
UNIT 73150
FPO AE 09510-3150
(Attached personnel are part of H&S Co!)
(ARTY note below)

WEAPONS CO

Rank LName, FName
1/6 WPNS CO, PLATOON
UNIT 73145
FPO AE 09510-3145
(ARTY you are part of Wpns CO!)



Do's and Don'ts:

- 1) **DO NOT** PUT "AFGHANISTAN" anywhere on the address label or Customs Form.
- 2) **DO NOT** send anything obscene, pork/pork by-products, no alcohol, no anti-Islamic materials.
- 3) **DO** place an address label inside of boxes; they do open and inspect boxes going through customs.
- 4) **DO NOT** send heavy bulky items; if it cannot be packed, consumed or worn it may be discarded.
- 5) **DO** go to www.USPS.com to order FREE postal mailing supplies and have them delivered to your home.
- 6) **DO NOT** put these addresses on any social networking site!

Other Tips:

*All packages will required a Customs Form; use appropriate mailing tape (no masking tape)
Expect mail to take a minimum of 10 days to arrive in country.*

FRO Corner

Deployment

Family and Friends,

Wow, what a month! NO, Wow, What A Year! As I look back over all of the events that transpired this past year, most of them were affected by training, more training, additional training, temporary duty training, in the field training, and well, some more training. YOU most of all are to be commended. This year has clearly underscored how difficult it can be to be part of the Marine Corps/ Navy Corpsmen family. You clearly understand what it has been like to love and support a Marine/Corpsman, often from afar or from the field. You've maintained the home front and managed households, plus done more than you could have ever imagined. Truly you are the strong foundation that supports an often weary but dedicated Marine/Corpsman and you are the glue that holds things together. I thank you, and your Marine/Corpsman thanks you for loving them, in spite of all things, and constantly being there to collect them when they are tired and smell...you clean them up, feed them and restore that special strength that they need to do it all over again the next day.

Now comes the tough part because we have entered our deployment cycle. I want you to know it is okay to cry for a while as you are missing your loved one. It is also normal to feel stressed, on edge or lethargic for a day or two. Recognize these behaviors but do not let them consume you. Be strong and stay strong for your Marine/Corpsman. As each day

passes, the ache subsides somewhat, but it will remain a quiet part of you until your Marine/Corpsman returns. It is important to reach out to friends and family members for comfort during this time and of course to your Family Readiness Team too. We are here for you and will help you get through the tough days and the tough nights. It is important to develop a routine for your day-to-day life, especially if you have children. Remember that young children have a different concept of time and days. They understand that Daddy will be gone for a while and they may rebound more quickly. Encourage them to draw a picture for Daddy or write him a note to say hello. Talk to your older kids as well and encourage them to express how they are feeling. If you find that you or your child are having a difficult time getting back to your daily routine, please remember that we have all kinds of support agencies in place to assist you. You can always contact OneSource at: www.militaryonesource.com. They are an excellent free resource available to you wherever you may be. Similarly, there are several other agencies on base to assist as needed. Please let us know how we can help.

Spouses, If You Depart the Area...

Realizing that many of you may be departing the area for part or all of this deployment, please let me know when and where you will be going! I have forms in my office but basically need: Your name, your company, departure dates, new email/new address, new phone numbers. We want to make sure you are doing okay. If you have not heard from your Family Readiness team by the end of January 2010,

please call us to touch base! We want to make sure we stay in contact with each and everyone of you!

PS: If you are leaving the area for more than 30 day, please call **TRICARE at 1-877-874-2273**, let them know which area you are in and they can transfer your care from this region and ensure that you have a primary care provider near where you live.

Holiday Greetings

As we enter this holiday season, you may be wondering, "What is there to celebrate?" Freedom is the first word that comes to my mind. For in this great country of ours, we are free to celebrate and worship in any way that we chose...or not chose. We are a country, a community, and a family that is bound by a common thread of service before self. This thread is strengthened and secured by the values and respect for Corps so richly engrained in each and every one of our Marines/Corpsmen. I celebrate their dedicated ability to leave those who they truly love to ensure that we remain free to live a life enjoying the freedoms that we too often take for granted.

What is there to celebrate? Celebrate these amazing men! Celebrate your families! Celebrate this wonderful season of giving and take the time to display some small act of kindness on behalf of those who serve our nation. I wish you PEACE that surpasses all unrest you may be feeling. And I love and appreciate you all!

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Kwanza

rl

I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year.
CHARLES DICKENS



Create a Card, Ornament, Picture!
Whatever you'd like!

Tiramisu Cheesecake Bars

Prep Time: 40 minutes
 Total Time: 4 hours 30 minutes
 Makes: 36 bars

INGREDIENTS

Cookie Base

1 pouch (1 lb 1.5 oz) Betty Crocker® sugar cookie mix
 2 tablespoons Gold Medal® all-purpose flour
 1/3 cup butter or margarine, softened
 1 egg, slightly beaten

Filling

2 packages (8 oz each) cream cheese, softened
 1 can (14 oz) sweetened condensed milk (not evaporated)
 1 tablespoon instant coffee granules or crystals
 2 teaspoons vanilla

Topping

2 eggs
 1 cup miniature semisweet chocolate chips
 6 oz cream cheese, softened
 1/2 cup whipping cream
 Chocolate curls, if desired



DIRECTIONS

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Spray bottom and sides of 13x9-inch pan with cooking spray. In large bowl, stir cookie base ingredients until soft dough forms. Press dough in bottom of pan. Bake 15 to 18 minutes or until light golden brown. Cool 15 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, in another large bowl, beat 2 packages (8 oz each) cream cheese with electric mixer on medium speed until smooth. Add milk; beat until well blended. Add coffee, vanilla and eggs; beat until well blended. Stir in chocolate chips. Pour over cookie base.
3. Bake 35 to 40 minutes or until set. Cool at room temperature 30 minutes. Refrigerate 30 minutes to cool completely.
4. In small bowl, beat 6 oz cream cheese on medium speed until smooth. Gradually beat in whipping cream; beat about 2 minutes longer or until fluffy. Spread mixture over cooled bars. Sprinkle chocolate curls over topping.
5. Refrigerate about 2 hours or until chilled. For bars, cut into 9 rows by 4 rows. Store covered in refrigerator.



**1st Battalion 6th Marine Regiment
Family Readiness Officer**

Renea T. Lewis

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Cinnamon Pull Apart Bread

"Monkey Bread"

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Total Time: 45 minutes

Makes: 16 servings

INGREDIENTS

1 cup sugar

2 tablespoons ground cinnamon

3 cans (7.5 ounces each) refrigerated buttermilk biscuits

½ cup (1 stick) butter, melted

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.

2. Mix sugar and cinnamon in plastic bag.

3. Cut biscuits into quarters. Shake 6 to 8 pieces at a time in cinnamon sugar mixture.

4. Place biscuit pieces in greased 10-cup Bundt pan.

5. Mix leftover cinnamon sugar mixture with melted butter. Pour over biscuits.

6. Bake 35 minutes or until golden brown.

7. Cool in pan 5 minutes. Invert onto serving plate. Serve warm.

Enjoy!

MY MARINES ADDRESS:

RANK

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME

1/6

CO,

COMPANY

PLATOON

UNIT

COMPANY UNIT CODE

FPO AE 09510-

**Cut this out!
Make copies
And put them in your
Loved ones' stockings!**

*Happy
Holidays!*